

**UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL**  
**(Large Entity)***(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))*Docket No.  
20518/41Total Pages in this Submission  
103**TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS**Mail Stop Patent Application  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Transmitted herewith for filing under 35 U.S.C. 111(a) and 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) is a new utility patent application for an invention entitled:

**SAFETY SHIELD FOR BLOOD COLLECTION MEDICAL NEEDLES**

and invented by:

**Ferguson et al.****If a CONTINUATION APPLICATION, check appropriate box and supply the requisite information:**

This application is a division of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/892,593, filed June 27, 2001 by Ferguson et al., which is a continuation in part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/433,449, filed November 4, 1999 by Ferguson et al., now U.S. Patent No. 6,280,420 issued August 28, 2001, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/434,036, filed November 4, 1999 by Thorne Jr. et al., now U.S. Patent No. 6,254,575 issued July 3, 2001, and U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/619,190, filed July 19, 2000 by Thorne, now U.S. Patent No. 6,592,556 issued July 15, 2001, which claim priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/254,506, filed on December 8, 2000, U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/275,810, filed on March 14, 2001, U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/275,886, filed March 14, 2001, and U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/296,968, filed June 8, 2001.

Enclosed are:

**Application Elements**

1. ☒ Filing fee as calculated and transmitted as described below
2. ☒ Specification having 30 pages and including the following:
  - a. ☒ Descriptive Title of the Invention
  - b. ☒ Cross References to Related Applications *(if applicable)*
  - c. ☐ Statement Regarding Federally-sponsored Research/Development *(if applicable)*
  - d. ☐ Reference to Sequence Listing, a Table, or a Computer Program Listing Appendix
  - e. ☒ Background of the Invention
  - f. ☒ Brief Summary of the Invention
  - g. ☒ Brief Description of the Drawings *(if filed)*
  - h. ☒ Detailed Description
  - i. ☒ Claim(s) as Classified Below
  - j. ☒ Abstract of the Disclosure

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**Application Elements (Continued)**

3. ☒ Drawing(s) *(when necessary as prescribed by 35 USC 113)*
- a. ☒ Formal                      Number of Sheets    59
- b. ☐ Informal                      Number of Sheets    \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☒ Oath or Declaration
- a. ☐ Newly executed *(original or copy)*                      ☐ Unexecuted
- b. ☒ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) *(for continuation/divisional application only)*
- c. ☒ With Power of Attorney                      ☐ Without Power of Attorney
- d. ☐ DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)  
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application,  
see 37 C.F.R. 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
5. ☐ Incorporation By Reference *(usable if Box 4b is checked)*  
The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.
6. ☐ CD ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix)
7. ☐ Application Data Sheet (See 37 CFR 1.76)
8. ☐ Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission *(if applicable, all must be included)*
- a. ☐ Computer Readable Form (CRF)
- b. ☐ Specification Sequence Listing on:
- i. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or
- ii. ☐ Paper
- c. ☐ Statement(s) Verifying Identical Paper and Computer Readable Copy

**Accompanying Application Parts**

9. ☐ Assignment Papers *(cover sheet & document(s))*
10. ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(B) Statement *(when there is an assignee)*
11. ☐ English Translation Document *(if applicable)*
12. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement/PTO-1449                      ☐ Copies of IDS Citations
13. ☐ Preliminary Amendment
14. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) *(Should be specifically itemized)*
15. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) *(if foreign priority is claimed)*
16. ☒ Certificate of Mailing
- ☐ First Class    ☒ Express Mail *(Specify Label No.):* EV 303531638 US

*(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))*

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**103**

17. ☐ Additional Enclosures (*please identify below*):

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18. ☐ Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2), Applicant hereby requests that this patent application not be published pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(1). Applicant hereby certifies that the invention disclosed in this application has not and will not be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication of applications 18 months after filing of the application.

***An applicant who makes a request not to publish, but who subsequently files in a foreign country or under a multilateral international agreement specified in 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i), must notify the Director of such filing not later than 45 days after the date of the filing of such foreign or international application. A failure of the applicant to provide such notice within the prescribed period shall result in the application being regarded as abandoned, unless it is shown to the satisfaction of the Director that the delay in submitting the notice was unintentional.***

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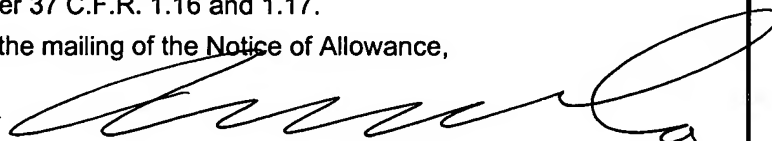
11696 U.S. PTO  
040904

**Fee Calculation and Transmittal**

**CLAIMS AS FILED**

For	#Filed	#Allowed	#Extra	Rate	Fee
Total Claims	20	- 20 =	0	x \$18.00	\$0.00
Indep. Claims	3	- 3 =	0	x \$86.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00
BASIC FEE					\$770.00
OTHER FEE (specify purpose) _____					\$0.00
TOTAL FILING FEE					\$770.00

- ☒ A check in the amount of **\$770.00** to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. **50-0369** as described below.
- ☐ Charge the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ as filing fee.
- ☒ Credit any overpayment.
- ☒ Charge any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17.
- ☐ Charge the issue fee set in 37 C.F.R. 1.18 at the mailing of the Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.311(b).



Signature

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Dated: April 9, 2004

cc:

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 CFR §1.10)**

Docket No. 20518/41 (S-8450-4)

APPLICANT(S):

Ferguson et al.

TITLE OF THE INVENTION:

**SAFETY SHIELD FOR BLOOD COLLECTION MEDICAL NEEDLES**

FILING DATE: HERewith

APPLICATION NUMBER (if known): TO BE ASSIGNED

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that the following correspondence:

***Utility Patent Application Transmittal (4 pgs); Divisional Patent Application (30 pgs.); Fifty-nine (59) Sheets of Formal Drawings (FIGS. 1-53); Copy of executed Declaration and Power of Attorney (10 pgs.); and a check in the amount of \$770.00***

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10 in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

Date

April 9, 2001

Michelle A. Phinney

Person Mailing Correspondence

Signature

Michelle Phinney

EV 303531638 US

Express Mail No.